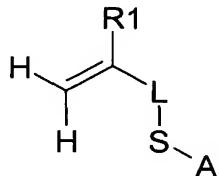


What is claimed is:

1. A silver halide photographic processing solution comprising at least one polymeric compound, wherein said polymeric compound comprises at least one monomer unit having a silver complexing moiety selected from the group consisting of a thiol or salt thereof, a group capable of generating a thiol by hydrolysis or a disulfide; and at least one monomer unit having a solubilizing group, and wherein both said silver ion complexing moiety and said solubilizing group are comprised in same or different monomer units.
2. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein said polymeric compound comprises at least one monomer unit having a solubilizing group selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid or salt thereof, a sulfonic acid or salt thereof, a phosphonic acid or salt thereof, a phosphate or a sulfate.
3. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric compound comprises an ethylenically unsaturated monomer according to general formula I

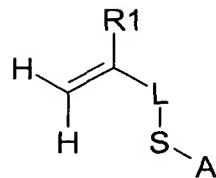


formula I

20 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heteroaryl group; L is a divalent linking group; A is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a metallic or organic counterion or a group capable of generating a thiol upon hydrolysis.

- 25 4. A processing solution according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric compound comprises an ethylenically unsaturated monomer according to general formula I

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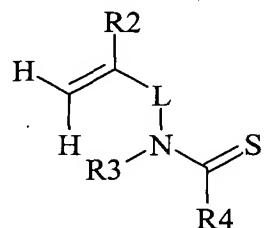


formula I

wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heteroaryl group; L is a divalent linking group; A is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a metallic or organic counterion or a group capable of generating a thiol upon hydrolysis.

5. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric compound comprises at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer according to formula II :

10



formula II

wherein :

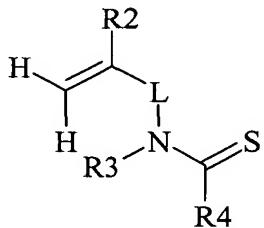
15 R² is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, a carboxylic acid or salt thereof, a carboxamide, an ester of a carboxylic acid, a ketone or an aldehyde; L represents a divalent linking group; R³ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, CO-R⁵; R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR⁶, SR⁷, NR⁸R⁹; R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR⁶, SR⁷, NR⁸R⁹; R⁶ and R⁷ are each independently selected from the group

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consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; R⁸ and R⁹ are each independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; and wherein further R⁸ and R⁹ may be combined to form a ring as well as R³ and R⁴ may be combined to form a ring.

6. A processing solution according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric compound comprises at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer according to formula II :

10



formula II

wherein :

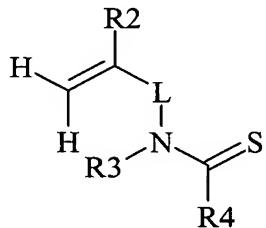
R² is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, a carboxylic acid or salt thereof, a carboxamide, an ester of a carboxylic acid, a ketone or an aldehyde; L represents a divalent linking group; R³ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, CO-R⁵; R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR⁶, SR⁷, NR⁸R⁹; R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR⁶, SR⁷, NR⁸R⁹; R⁶ and R⁷ are each independently selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; R⁸ and R⁹ are each independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene

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group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; and wherein further R^8 and R^9 may be combined to form a ring as well as R^3 and R^4 may be combined to form a ring.

7. A processing solution according to claim 3, wherein the polymeric
5 compound comprises at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer
according to formula II :



formula II

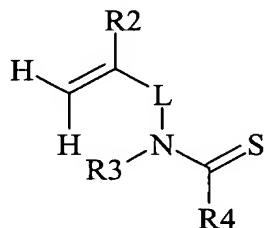
10 wherein :

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, a carboxylic acid or salt thereof, a carboxamide, an ester of a carboxylic acid, a ketone or an aldehyde; L represents a divalent linking group; R^3 is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, $\text{CO}-R^5$; R^4 is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR^6 , SR^7 , $\text{NR}^8 R^9$; R^5 is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR^6 , SR^7 , $\text{NR}^8 R^9$, R^6 and R^7 are each independently selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; R^8 and R^9 are each independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; and wherein further R^8 and R^9 may be combined to form a ring as well as R^3 and R^4 may be combined to form a ring.

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8. A processing solution according to claim 4, wherein the polymeric compound comprises at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer according to formula II :

5



wherein :

R² is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, a carboxylic acid or salt thereof, a carboxamide, an ester of a carboxylic acid, a ketone or an aldehyde; L represents a divalent linking group; R³ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, CO-R⁵; R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR⁶, SR⁷, NR⁸R⁹; R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group, OR⁶, SR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, R⁶ and R⁷ are each independently selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; R⁸ and R⁹ are each independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aryl group, a heteroaryl group; and wherein further R⁸ and R⁹ may be combined to form a ring as well as R³ and R⁴ may be combined to form a ring.

25 9. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

10. A processing solution according to claim 2, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

5 11. A processing solution according to claim 3, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

10 12. A processing solution according to claim 4, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

15 13. A processing solution according to claim 5, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

20 14. A processing solution according to claim 6, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

15. A processing solution according to claim 7, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 8.

25 16. A processing solution according to claim 8, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 100 to 1.

30 17. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to

said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

18. A processing solution according to claim 2, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

5 19. A processing solution according to claim 3, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

10 20. A processing solution according to claim 4, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

15 21. A processing solution according to claim 5, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

20 22. A processing solution according to claim 6, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

25 23. A processing solution according to claim 7, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

30 24. A processing solution according to claim 8, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilising group is in the range between 1 to 100 and 1 to 1.

25. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

5 26. A processing solution according to claim 2, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

10 27. A processing solution according to claim 3, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

15 28. A processing solution according to claim 4, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

20 29. A processing solution according to claim 5, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

30. A processing solution according to claim 6, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

25 31. A processing solution according to claim 7, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

30 32. A processing solution according to claim 8, wherein a molar ratio of said monomer unit comprising a silver ion complexing moiety to

said monomer unit comprising a solubilizing group is in the range between 1 to 25 and 5 to 1.

33. A processing solution according to claim 1, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

5 34. A processing solution according to claim 2, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

35. A processing solution according to claim 3, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

10 36. A processing solution according to claim 4, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

37. A processing solution according to claim 5, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

38. A processing solution according to claim 6, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

15 39. A processing solution according to claim 7, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.

40. A processing solution according to claim 8, wherein said processing solution is a photographic developing solution.